

VIA ZOOM, DECEMBER 7, 2021, AT 1:30 P.M.

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF THE STATE OF IDAHO

Docket No. 49061

In the Matter of: John Doe I, A Child)
Under Eighteen (18) Years of Age.)
)
<hr/> STATE OF IDAHO, DEPARTMENT OF)
HEALTH & WELFARE,)
)
Petitioner-Respondent,)
)
v.)
)
JOHN DOE (2021-34),)
)
Respondent-Appellant.)
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Appeal from the Magistrate Division of the District Court of the First Judicial District, State of Idaho, Kootenai County. Hon. James Combo, Magistrate Judge.

Anne C. Taylor, Kootenai County Public Defender; Jeanne M. Howe, Deputy Public Defender, Coeur d'Alene, for appellant.

Hon. Lawrence G. Wasden, Attorney General; Denise L. Rosen, Deputy Attorney General, Coeur d'Alene, for respondent.

John Doe (2021-34) is the father of the minor child in this action. Approximately three months after birth, the child came into foster care following Doe's arrest for possession of controlled substances. Ultimately, the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare filed a petition to terminate Doe's parental rights. The magistrate court terminated Doe's parental rights after concluding that clear and convincing evidence showed that Doe neglected the child and that termination is in the child's best interests. Doe appeals, contending that the magistrate court erred in concluding that it had jurisdiction over the petition to terminate his parental, that Doe neglected the child, and that termination is in the child's best interests.